

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON
AT TACOMA

MERIDITH FERGUSON,

Plaintiff,

v.

MICHAEL ASTRUE, Commissioner of
Social Security Administration,

Defendant.

CASE NO. C07-5626BHS

ORDER

This matter comes before the court on plaintiff's motion to supplement the record (Doc. 16). After reviewing the motion, defendant's opposition and the remaining record, the court finds and orders as follows:

(1) Plaintiff's motion to supplement the record was filed on March 11, 2008. Plaintiff asks the court to add two documents to the record for consideration, both of which post date the ALJ's decision in this matter.

(2) Under the Social Security Act, a court may order the administration to consider additional evidence, "but only upon a showing that there is new evidence which is material and that there is good cause for the failure to incorporate such evidence into the record in a prior proceeding." 42 U.S.C. § 405(g). Thus, the plaintiff must show that the proffered new medical evidence is: "(1) new and not merely cumulative of what is already in the record, and that it is (2) material, that is, both relevant to the claimant's condition during the time period for which benefits were denied and probative. The concept of

1 materiality requires in addition, a reasonable possibility that the new evidence would have influenced the
2 [Commissioner] to decide the claimant's application differently. Finally, claimant must show (3) good
3 cause for [his] failure to present the evidence earlier." Tirado v. Bowen, 842 F.2d 595, 597 (2d Cir.1988)
4 (internal citations omitted); see Sanchez v. Secretary of Health and Human Serv., 812 F.2d 509, 511 (9th
5 Cir.1987) and Booz v. Secretary of Health & Human Services, 734 F.2d 1378, 1380 (9th Cir. 1984).

6 (3) After reviewing the record, the court finds the supplemental material is not relevant to the
7 court's review of the ALJ's decision, which concluded prior to the origination of both of proposed
8 documents. Inclusion of the supplemental material issue would invite the court to impermissibly consider
9 material that was not part of record relied upon by the ALJ. Accordingly, Plaintiff's motion to
10 supplement the record is DENIED.

11 DATED this 28th day of March, 2008.

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13 /s/ J. Kelley Arnold
14 J. Kelley Arnold
15 U.S. Magistrate Judge
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